

The Pipeline

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KCHIP Expands to Cover More Children

The Kentucky Children's Health Insurance Program (KCHIP) expanded for the second time this year to cover more children. Effective Nov. 1 the program for children ages birth through 18 is now available to families with income twice the poverty level.



For a family of four, the annual income could be up to \$33,400 to be eligible for this new coverage.

Covered services include office visits, preventive services and hospital stays.

Cabinet for Health Services Secretary Jimmy Helton announced that more than 20,000 children have enrolled in the KCHIP program as of the end of September.

Interested families can call a toll-free number - 1-877-KCHIP-18 - to request an application to enroll in KCHIP. Applications are also available at local health departments, Family Resource and Youth Services Centers, local offices of the Department for Community Based Services, and other locations.

KCHIP began in July of 1998 when the Medicaid program was expanded to cover children ages 14 through 18 who lived in families with income under the poverty line.

CFC Leadership Topics

The following topics were on the agenda for the Nov. 1 Cabinet for Families and Children leadership meeting. See your supervisor for more information.

- ? A presentation on the Governor's Office of Technology: CIO Aldona Valicenti
- ? Y2K readiness of facilities where CFC staff are housed
- ? Vision 2000 Communication Committee's proposal on Staff Liaison Committees
- ? ERA/ACE Awards
- ? Accreditation
- ? Institutional Review Board

\$7 Million to Educate People About Benefits

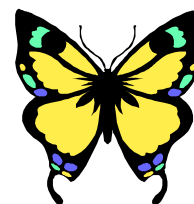
Kentucky is spending \$7 million in federal "de-link" funds to educate people about benefits for which they may be eligible. Congress made the money available when welfare reform legislation de-linked or separated eligibility for medical care from other entitlement programs.

"We are trying to identify people who may not be aware they qualify for the Kentucky Children's Health Insurance Program (KCHIP), Medicaid, nutrition programs or other services," said Gov. Paul Patton. "Once we identify them, we want to help them enroll."

The Cabinet for Health Services has spent \$2.3 million in a statewide outreach effort that includes extensive radio, television and newspaper advertising.

About \$4 million will fund an intensive community-based outreach effort by local health departments. The Department for Medicaid Services has contracted with the Department for Public Health and the state's district and county health departments to make personal contact with people who may be eligible for benefits.

The Cabinet for Families and Children, which processes the applications for benefits, will spend about \$500,000 of de-link money for changes to its computer system.

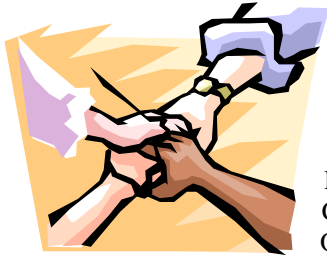


The remaining funds are committed to targeting high-risk individuals, paying staff costs, and printing additional materials.

Person-to-person outreach by local health department staffs is being emphasized. Health department employees will visit hospitals and clinics, government offices, community organizations and day care centers to distribute applications and information on eligibility.

They will also attend meetings of community groups and hold educational sessions for service providers. The staff will educate families about available health and social services and will help families apply, often through door to door visits.

KECC Regional Update



The Cumberland Valley Region of the Cabinet for Families and Children reports that six of its offices have a 100 percent participation rate in the 1999 Kentucky Employees Charitable Campaign as of Oct. 26 tabulations.

Kim Short of CFC's Clay County office is the KECC coordinator for the region, and she and her committee came up with a number of "great ideas" on how to increase contributions, said Service Region Administrator Nancy Propps.

Propps said she offered incentives at the beginning of the campaign – either a pizza party for the office that had the highest percentage of employees contributing, or in case of a tie, a dessert break for each office with the highest percentage.

She now has six dessert breaks scheduled, as well as a special recognition planned for Jackson County employees in honor of their having the highest monetary contribution to employee ratio in the region.

Sick Leave Needs

Patricia Amburgey of the Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Cabinet has been off work since April 1999, and may continue to need sick leave for up to one year. As of September, she exhausted all her own leave and all the leave her co-workers at NREPC were able to donate, and is now requesting donated sick leave from employees throughout the state. To donate time, call Kathy Wilson at 502-564-2320.

Beth Warmoth of CFC's General Accounting has been diagnosed with Fibromyalgia. She will be off work indefinitely and also need donated sick leave. Call Wilma Morris at 502-564-7718.

Respite for CFC's SRAs

Cabinet for Families and Children Secretary Viola Miller has declared a moratorium for the month of November on all requests to Service Region Administrators and Associates for information and meetings.

Any future requests from CFC's central office to the field for reports, meetings and training should be coordinated with Dietra Paris, commissioner of the Department for Community Based Services.

Helpful Web Sites

Something new will be added to these *Helpful Web Sites* each week. Remember to "bookmark" the ones you will want to refer to often. If you've found a helpful site you would like to share in this column, e-mail it to <mailto:margaret.harney@mail.state.ky.us>

Anti-Smoking for Children and Teens

(The following sites were submitted by Eva Smith-Carroll, CHS Communications, in honor of the Great American Smokeout Nov. 18) <http://www.cancer.org/smokeout> – the American Cancer Society's site for children
<http://www.cdc.gov/tobacco/sgr4kids/sgrmenu.htm> – an online magazine for children, the "Surgeon General's Report 4 Kids"
http://kidshealth.org/kid/stay_healthy/good/body/smoking.html – titled "Smoking Stinks," this site is for younger children
<http://kidshealth.org/teen/body/mind/smoking.html> – Kids Health for teens

Health and Human Services

<http://www.cwla.org> – Child Welfare League of America site for professionals and parents
<http://www.os.dhhs.gov> – U.S. Department for Health and Human Services
<http://welfareinfo.org> – up-to-date information, policy analysis and technical assistance on welfare reform

News

http://cfc-chs.chr.state.ky.us/media_releases/media.htm: media releases from communications staff of CFC and CHS
<http://www.state.ky.us/agencies/gov/rlspage.htm> – news releases from Gov. Patton's communications office

Phone and Resource Directories

<http://www.state.ky.us/directory/dirindex.htm> – an updated phone directory for all state government employees

Training

<http://www.state.ky.us/agencies/finance/depts/gsc/gscpage.htm> – Governmental Services Center site includes classes and how to register for them

Correction

The caption with the photo of the CFC Employees of the Month in the Oct. 29 issue of *Pipeline* was incorrect. Janet Connor, not Frances McGraw, was pictured. McGraw was unavailable for a photo.



Notes and Activities

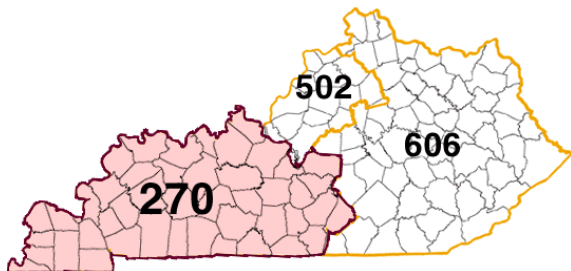
? The **Adoption Fair** of the Bluegrass will be held Nov. 7 at Lexington Mall, 1 - 4 p.m. For more information, call

Lexington's CFC Adoption Unit at 606-246-2256, or 1-800-432-9346. Remember, as a state employee you may be eligible for assistance with your adoption expenses.

- ? The **Annual Fall Products Sale**, sponsored by Community Mental Health and Mental Retardation Programs, will be held Nov. 12, 9 a.m. - 2 p.m., in the lobby of the CHR Building. Furniture, wood products, candy, holiday items and ceramics will be available.
- ? The **Great American Smokeout** is Nov. 18. Smokers are encouraged to refrain from smoking at least for a day.
- ? The **Kentucky Office of Geographic Information** will host an educational Expo, 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. in room 125 of the Capital Annex Nov. 19.
- ? To volunteer with the **Special Friends** program, and be a mentor to a child, contact Ronnie Dunn of CFC's Employee Services at 502-564-7770, ext. 3566.
- ? Nominations for **CFC Employees of the Month** are due by the 15th of each month. For more information, or to submit a nomination, contact Charlene Nation of the Employee Services Branch, CHR-5, phone 564-7770. She will also accept nominations sent by e-mail.

Area Code Reminder

Effective Nov. 1 you must dial area code 270 when making calls to Western Kentucky, as shown on the map below.



For more information, check BellSouth's Web site at <http://www.bellsouth.com/areacode/html/270.html>

State Holidays Scheduled

State offices will be closed and state employees will be given a holiday on the following dates:

1999

Nov. 11	Veterans Day
Nov. 25 - 26	Two-day Thanksgiving Holiday
Dec. 7	Inauguration Day
Dec. 23 - 24	Two-day Christmas Holiday
Dec. 31 and Jan. 3	Two-day New Year Holiday

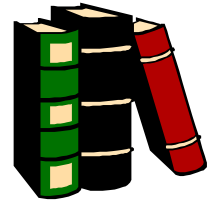
2000

Jan. 17	Martin Luther King Jr. Birthday
April 21 (Half day)	Good Friday
May 29	Memorial Day
July 4	Independence Day
Sept. 4	Labor Day
Nov. 7	Election Day
Nov. 10	Veterans Day
Nov. 23 - 24	Two-day Thanksgiving Holiday
Dec. 25 - 26	Two-day Christmas Holiday

2001

Jan. 1 - 2	Two-day New Year Holiday
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18th Annual Kentucky Book Fair Nov. 20



The Kentucky Book Fair will be held Nov. 20, 9 a.m. - 4:30 p.m., at Kentucky State University's William Exum Center.

The Book Fair, now in its 18th year, supports and encourages writers, and gives readers an opportunity to meet some of their favorite authors while purchasing books at a 20 percent discount.

Proceeds benefit Kentucky's libraries. For more information, see the event's web site at

<http://www.kdla.state.ky.us/events/bkfair99/99bkfair.htm>

Pipeline, a weekly newsletter for employees of the Cabinets for Families and Children and Health Services, welcomes reader comments and contributions. Items for *Pipeline* are due by 4:30 p.m. Tuesday; items for intercom announcements are due by 4:30 p.m. Monday. Call 502-564-6786 or send information to Patricia Boler at Patricia.Boler@mail.state.ky.us